

Message Text

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11

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 SR-02 ORM-03 PC-10

USIA-15 DODE-00 AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 L-03 DRC-01

EB-11 IGA-02 RSC-01 /185 W

----- 094162

R 011710Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4362

INFO USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MALIAN REFUGEES IN ALGERIA

REF: STATE 038476

1. FOLLOWING LEARNED FROM UNDRO, UNHCR AND LICROSS
RE MALIAN REFUGEES IN ALGERIA AND EFFORTS OF EDMOND KAISER
OF TERRE DES HOMMES.

2. KAISER, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AREA, SENT CABLES TO
UNSYG, UNICEF, UNHCR AND LICROSS REPORTING SUBSTANTIAL
NUMBER OF TAUREGS FROM MALI HAD CROSSED BORDER INTO ALGERIA
AND WERE DYING FROM HUNGER AT RATE OF 25 PERSONS A DAY.
KAISER REQUESTED IMMEDIATE AID. UNDRO REPORTS UNSYG
REPLIED HE BRINGING MATTER TO ATTENTION UNDRO BUT STRESSED UN
UNABLE INTERVENE WITHOUT REQUEST FROM GOVT. ALGERIA. UNDRO
INFORMED UNDP REP IN ALGERIS WHO BROUGHT MATTER TO ATTENTION
GOA. KAISER HAS SENT SUBSEQUENT STRONG CABLES TO SAME

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ADDRESSEES THREATENING EXPOSURE THEIR ALLEGED DERELECTIONS AND

HAS PUBLICLY ATTACKED GOA FOR NOT ALLOWING ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS.

3. UNDRO ALSO REPORTS GOA TOLD UNDP REP IT HAS INCREASED RELIEF MEASURES IN AREA UNDER WHICH IN PAST 18 MONTHS 20,000 TAUREGS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED FOOD, CLOTHING AND MEDICAL AID THROUGH THE CIVIL PROTECTION SERVICES OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND THE NATIONAL RED CRESCENT SOCIETY. GOA ALSO SAID TAUREGS FROM MALI AND NIGER ATTRACTED TO ALGERIA BY SUCH ASSISTANCE AND ADDED THAT GOA IN 1973 GAVE \$5 MILLION ASSISTANCE TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES FOR DROUGHT ASSISTANCE.

4. LICROSS REPORTS IT HAS SENT SWISS FRANCS 100,000 TO ALGERIA RED CRESCENT SOCIETY FOR THIS AID. LICROSS REP GENEVA ALSO REPORTED INFORMALLY INTER ALIA ITS DELEGATE BACK FROM NIGER SAID ALL OF SAHEL HIT BY DROUGHT MUCH HARDER THAN LAST YEAR. LICROSS DELEGATE IN CHAD CONFIRMS AND REPORTS CHILDREN ARE BEING ABANDONED IN KANEN AREA OF CHAD.

5. IN RESPONSE TO GOA REQUEST, UNHCR SENT FEBRUARY 28 FROM GENEVA HEADQUARTERS TO ALGERIA ITS NORTH AFRICAN MIDDLE EAST CHIEF TO CONFER WITH GOA AND MAKE ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEM. MEANWHILE UNHCR UNABLE SAY WHETHER PROBLEM IS PURELY RELIEF ONE OR WHETHER TAUREGS FLEEING PERSECUTION FROM MALIAN MILITARY FORCES. UNHCR WILL GIVE MISSION SUBSTANCE OF REPORT FROM ITS REP AFTER HE RETURNS TO GENEVA. DALE

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